

### **EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Attorney Kristin M. Crall on May 18, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

#### **IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Claim 39:*

On line 5, "a user's face and, " was changed to --a user's face, wherein the edge of the semi-flexible lip returns toward the center of the oronasal face piece and, --.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art made of record does not disclose or teach the specific respirator face mask having the specific structure and relationship as claimed in claim 20 including a hygienic protection system in first and second parts disposed in the internal groove of the oronasal face piece, and the curvature of the edge of the oronasal face piece where the lip returns toward the center of the oronasal face piece.

The prior art made of record does not disclose or teach the specific respirator face mask having the specific structure and relationship as claimed in claim 39 including a hygienic protection system in a lip insulating part extending over the an external

portion of the oronasal face piece, lip securing part disposed to apply compressive pressure on the oronasal face piece, and the curvature of the edge of the oronasal face piece where the lip returns toward the center of the oronasal face piece.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Annette F. Dixon whose telephone number is (571) 272-3392. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Justine Yu can be reached on (571) 272-4835. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Annette F Dixon  
Examiner  
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Examiner, Art Unit 3771

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